

**PORT OF BELLINGHAM  
MAC (MARINA ADVISORY COMMITTEE) MEETING  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021  
MEETING VIA ZOOM  
BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON**

**Minutes**

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**Committee Members Present:**

Dick Cathell	Paul Burrill
Linda Thomson	Charlie Hawkins
Loren Kapp	Robert Brooks
Ross Tennant	Jim Kyle

**Committee Members Absent:**

Stan Campbell  
Lisa Anderson  
Robert Brooks

**Committee Members Excused:**

Faith Worthley  
Julie Winkler  
Jon Alexander

**Visitors/Guests:**

Stephanie Wiley, POB

**Port Representatives present**

Andy Peterson  
Pam Taft  
Aaron Bisson  
Tiffany DeSimone

**Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

**Minutes**

Paul Burrill made a motion to approve the September 2021 minutes, seconded by Dick Cathell, and unanimously approved by the group.

**Public Comment**

Stephanie Wiley introduced herself as the Port's new Outreach Supervisor and will give an update on SeaFeast later in the meeting.

**Dockside Feedback**

Paul Burrill asked for use clarification on the Pavilion. Tiffany DeSimone clarified to the group that all along the intended use of the Pavilion was for the Active Commercial Fishermen (ACF) to use as a net repair area. To maximize the use of the facility, during the fishing off-season, the Port's Meetings & Events Department will rent it out for special events. The ACF will use the facility during October-May and during June-September it will be used for community special events. The Port is currently working through the details for administering use of the space.

Paul also asked if the Dockside Market would be held at the Pavilion. Tiffany responded that it could be held there.

Loren asked about the parking lot across from Cold Storage. Mainly, there are semi-trucks that are always parked there. Tiffany explained that BCS rents that parking lot from the Port to stage trucks accessing BCS.

Peter Border expressed the positive feedback he's received about the new ice machine at the boat launch and the paving that's been done around the harbor. He then asked about the custom's clearance at Squalicum Harbor. Ross Tennant explained how the clearing process has worked for his charter fleet. He said that there are fees associated with an agent coming down to the harbor to clear a vessel. Jim Kyle added that Debbie Granger did some research and talked to a customs agent and said that it's difficult to get clearance. Paul mentioned that Commissioner Bobby Briscoe talked about this topic at a few meetings ago. Dick Cathell asked why CBP left in the first place. Andy responded that the agencies made the decision to eliminate boats transiting the San Juan Islands before clearing Customs. The decision was made without consulting the Port. The Port immediately reached out to the legislatures but didn't get much response.

Paul gave accolades to Andy and his crew for the fine job they did managing the last crab opening.

### **Upcoming Events**

#### *SeaFeast October 30, 2021*

Stephanie reported that this year's SeaFeast will not be the usual event, rather it will be a modified version given the current COVID situation. The event, albeit smaller, will be an exciting event that is sure to please the crowd. There will be food trucks, live music, Dockside Market, Lummi salmon grilling, and Meet Your Fishermen. They are encouraging kids to wear costumes and come down to the event and trick-or-treat. Stephanie said that they have been advertising the event through social media blasting.

#### *Pacific Marine Expo November 18-20, 2021*

Aaron announced that the Port will be having a booth again at the event. Someone from the group asked if the number of exhibitors was down. Stephanie replied that in looking at the vendor list it does appear to be a smaller crowd this year. She said that a vaccination card is required for entry. Peter Border asked what the Port's goal was in attending this event. Staff explained that a few years ago the Port put forth a focused marketing program to attract new marine trades businesses and active commercial fishermen to Bellingham and Blaine Harbors. Harbor staff along with Real Estate staff take shifts working the booth. The Port designed a Marine Trades Directory booklet that contains a listing of all marine-related businesses in Whatcom County and hands the booklet out at this event.

Andy spoke about the flyer he recently sent out on The Great Washington Shakeout on October 21, and reminded everyone that the actual tsunami siren will be blasted.

Lastly, Ross Tennant announced a vote of enthusiasm from a large number of people regarding a daycare facility being started down at the harbor. This was something that was important to Brian Pemberton who was working hard to make it happen before he passed away.

### **Staff Updates**

Staff updates were incorporated throughout the meeting.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.